

Emily Dickinson's quaint, stark rhymes

Falling on the button — was her glucose
sagging, that sprung eye-ball?

Suppose she had daubed pigments
everywhere — would death have seemed

worth dying

When eminent domain decreed "plowing

Up" an eighteen-hundred's cemetery
in a Southwest "ghost town" — how

Could it surprise the anthropologists
(much less anyone)

Four in five
of adult males had been shot

Or hanged. Three in five of adult
females were dead before thirty —

Most likely from childbirth. Two in
five of infants were dead before three